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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,517	11/29/2003	Anand Hariraj Udupa	TI-37240	8902
23494	7590	02/28/2005	EXAMINER	
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED P O BOX 655474, M/S 3999 DALLAS, TX 75265			ZWEIZIG, JEFFERY SHAWN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/724,517

Applicant(s)

UDUPA ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey S. Zweizig

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-155 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-38, 48-50, 54-64, 68-72, 85, 121-123 and 131-155 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 39-47, 51-53, 65-67, 73-84, 113-120 and 124-130 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 8-38, 48-50, 54-64, 68-73, 85, 121-123 and 131-155 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Group I, claims 1-8, 39-47, 51-53, 65-67, 73-76, 77-84, 113-120 and 124-130 directed toward Fig. (undetermined);

Group II, claims 1, 9-13, 35-38, 54-56, 71, 77 and 85-89 directed toward Fig. 15;

Group III, claims 1, 14-28, 77, 90-104, 131, 132, 143 and 144 directed toward the top of Fig. 6A;

Group IV, claims 1, 14, 29-31, 77, 90 and 105-107 directed toward the bottom of Fig. 6A;

Group V, claims 1, 32-34, 61-64, 77 and 108-112 directed toward Fig. 20;

Group VI, claims 48-50, 68-70, 121-123, 133-142 and 145-155 directed toward Fig. 6A; and

Group VII, claims 57-60, directed toward Fig. 18A.

Currently, no claims are generic.

Applicants have elected, with traverse, group I, claims 1-8, 39-47, 51-53, 65-67, 73-76, 77-84, 113-120 and 124-130. Applicants' arguments appear to be directed toward a restriction requirement. This is an election of species requirement. Claims 9-38, 48-50, 54-64, 68-72, 85-12, 121-123 and 131-155 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Objections

Art Unit: 2816

2. As pointed out in the previous Office action, the parentheses should be removed from claim 8.

In claim 73 line 1, it is not clear what is meant by "A device of implementing an device".

Claims 9-38, 48-50, 54-64, 68-72, 85-12, 121-123 and 131-155 are object to as having been withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1-8, 39-47, 51-53, 73-76, 77-84 and 124-130 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

As was pointed out in the previous Office Action, it is not clear toward what disclosed embodiment the elected claims are directed. Applicants chose to offer no help or guidance.

It is not understood toward what claim 1 is directed. It appears claim 1 may be directed toward Fig. 5B. According to claims 3 and 4 it would appear that the second

Art Unit: 2816

transistor is directed toward transistor 340. This would leave transistor 370 as the first transistor, however, transistor 370 is not seen to receive a voltage substantially equaling the high voltage AVDD as recited in claim 1. Thus, support is not seen for claims 1-8. Claims 1-8 are not properly enabled.

The low voltage transistor recited in claims 39-44 appears to be directed toward transistor 340. However, claim 45 seems to direct the low voltage transistor toward transistor 410, but 410 does receive the high supply voltage. Claim 46 appear to be directed toward still a different transistor 370. Proper support is not seen for claims 39-47. Claims 39-47 are not properly enabled.

The Figures do not appear to disclose an NMOS transistor receiving a clock signal as recited in claim 51 or the clock generator disclosed in claim 53. Proper support is not seen for claims 51-53. Claims 51-53 are not properly enabled.

Claims 65-67 appear to be directed toward, for example, transistor 340 shown in Fig. 5B and are not rejected.

There appears to be no support for an NMOS transistor receiving a clock and the high voltage as recited in claims 73-76. Claims 73-76 are not properly enabled.

Claim 77 appears to be directed toward transistor 340, however, claim 78 appears to be directed toward transistor 370. There appears to be no support for a transistor with the attributes recited in claims 77 and 78. Claims 77-84 are not properly enabled.

Claims 113-115 appear to be directed toward, for example, transistor 340 shown in Fig. 5B and are not rejected.

Claims 116-119 appear to be directed toward, for example, transistor 370 shown in Fig. 5B and are not rejected.

Claim 120 appears to be directed toward, for example, transistors 340 or 370 shown in Fig. 5B and are not rejected.

There appears to be no support for the detecting step recited in claim 124. Claim 124 and 125 are not properly enabled.

There appears to be no support for an NMOS transistor receiving a clock as recited in claims 126-130. Claims 126-129 are not properly enabled.

There appears to be no support for the biasing and determination steps recited in claim 130.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-5, 39, 40, 65-67, 77-81, 113-116, 120 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kobatake (USPN 5,729,155).

As best understood, Fig 4 discloses a low voltage transistor N14 in a input path receiving a substantially high voltage as recited in claims 1 and 2.

Further shown is a second low voltage PMOS transistor P14 with a bulk terminal and an output terminal OUT14 as recited in claims 3-5.


As best understood, claims 39, 40, 65-67, 77-81, 113-115, 116 and 120 are anticipated for the reasons above.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey S. Zweizig whose telephone number is (571) 272-1758. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 6:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jeffrey S. Zweizig
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816

JZ